Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Message Text

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PAGE 01 USNATO 07081 202103Z
ACTION EUR-12

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: MARR NATO
SUBJECT: CEOA DEPUTY GENERAL MANAGER POST

REF: STATE 183003, 192209Z JULY 78
1. DEPARTMENT IS AWARE THAT APPOINTMENT OF A FRENCH CANDIDATE TO THE CENTRAL EUROPE OPERATING AGENCY (CEOA) POST OF DEPUTY GENERAL MANAGER HAS BEEN A VERY SENSITIVE ISSUE. THE CASE AROSE OUT OF THE GENERAL MANAGER'S DESIRE TO TERMINATE THE CONTRACT OF THE CURRENT FRENCH INCUMBENT (BAYLAC) WHICH CAUSED FRENCH DEPUTY PERM REP DE LA FERRIERE TO DELAY DISCUSSION BY DEPUTY PERM REPS OF FINANCIAL MATTERS IN SPRING 1977, UNTIL THE ISSUE WAS SETTLED. FRENCH FINALLY AGREED TO BAYLAC'S TERMINATION IN JULY 78 ON THE CONDITION THAT FRENCH REPRESENTATION IN CEOA WOULD NOT THEREBY BE REDUCED. BAYLAC'S POST WAS GRADED AS A-7, STEP 5, "ON A PERSONAL BASIS", AND HAS BEEN SO SINCE THE EARLY DAYS OF CEOA. THE AGREEMENT REACHED BY DEPUTY PERM REPS LAST YEAR WAS TO PROTECT THE FRENCH REPRESENTATION AT CEOA FOR THE CURRENT REPLACEMENT, THUS THE FRENCH BELIEVE THAT THEIR NEW CANDIDATE SHOULD BE APPOINTED AT THE SAME LEVEL AS WAS BAYLAC PRIOR TO HIS TERMINATION. THERE IS, HOWEVER, NO COMMITMENT TO FUTURE FRENCH OCCUPATION TO THIS PARTICULAR POST, NOR TO THE
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PAGE 02 USNATO 07081 202103Z

GRADING THEREOF.

2. WE HAVE BEEN VERY CAREFUL TO TAILOR THE RECORD OF THE CENTRAL EUROPE PIPELINE POLICY COMMITTEE (CEPPC) MEETINGS TO INDICATE THAT THE NEW DEPUTY GENERAL MANAGER POST WILL BE GRADED AT A-6, BUT THAT THE NEXT OCCUPANT THEREOF MAY REPEAT MAY BE ACCORDED THE SALARY AND EMOLU-

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

MENTS OF AN A-7 "ON A PERSONAL BASIS" WITHOUT DEFINING
WHAT THAT BASIS MIGHT BE. IT IS OBVIOUS THAT THE
QUALIFICATIONS OF THE FRENCH CANDIDATE EVENTUALLY SELECTED
FOR THE POST WILL DETERMINE THE LEVEL AT WHICH HE IS
PAID. WE EXPECT, HOWEVER, THAT THE FRENCH ARE RECRUITING
AT THE A-7 LEVEL AND WILL BEND EVERY EFFORT TO MAKE SURE
HIS TALENTS WARRANT COMMENSURATE PAY. SINCE THE CURRENT
ARRANGEMENT IS REALLY AN EXTENSION OF THE BAYLAC SITUATION
WHICH WOULD HAVE BEEN CONTINUED HAD BAYLAC BEEN A
SATISFACTORY INCUMBENT, WE DO NOT BELIEVE THAT APPOINTMENT
AT AN A-7 LEVEL, IF WARRANTED, WILL INFLUENCE POLICY ELSE-
WHERE IN NATO. WE WILL, OR COURSE, SEEK APPROVAL OF AN
EVENTUAL DECISION ON THE FRENCH CANDIDATE, AS WELL AS HIS
GRADING, WHEN THE FRENCH NOMINATIONS HAVE BEEN MADE,
PRESUMABLY IN SEPTEMBER.
3. FYI: WE BELIEVE IT NOT IMPOSSIBLE THAT THE FRG,
IN LIGHT OF THE FRENCH NEAR VETO OF THE FRG CANDIDATE
FOR NAMSA GENERAL MANAGER, GENERAL CASH, MAY DELAY ANY
APPOINTMENT OF A FRENCH CANDIDATE TO THE CEOA POST.
AT LEAST WE CAN ASSUME THAT THE FRG WILL BE VERY STRICT
ON THE LEVEL OF PAY AND THE LENGTH OF APPOINTMENT UNLESS
THE FRENCH POSITION IN NAMSA IS MODIFIED. END FYI.
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EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
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